As a scientist, Rep. Slaughter is committed to working on our nation's public health and environmental problems. Lead poisoning still impacts approximately 250,000 children in the United States every year. Repeated studies have linked lead poisoning with developmental delays, Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD), IQ reductions, hearing loss, sight problems, and other chronic health conditions.

Rep. Slaughter has a long legacy of work to end childhood lead poisoning and improve the health and safety of housing nationwide. During this Congress, Rep. Slaughter has fought for lead prevention and healthy housing initiatives at the Centers for Disease Prevention and Control (CDC), at the Department for Housing and Urban Development (HUD), and at the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). On March 19, 2010, Rep. Slaughter led two letters to the House Appropriations committee, urging sufficient funding for lead and healthy housing efforts in the HUD and CDC budgets. These letters helped to maintain funding in a difficult fiscal climate.

Eliminating lead poisoning is one of the nation's top environmental health priorities, and Rep. Slaughter believes that Congress must finish the task.